



ATTACHMENT A Remarks

By this (third) Preliminary Amendment, the claims have been rewritten to reduce the multiple dependencies and to place the claims in better conformance with US practice.

In addition, it will be noted that the listing of the claims has also been revised from the previous two non-entered listings which accompanied the first and second Preliminary Amendments (of 5-2-05 and 9-2-05) in response to the NOTICE OF NON-COMPLIANT AMENDMENT as follows.

- With respect to **claim 1**, the Notice indicated that the status identifier “previously amended” was incorrect. As later determined in a telephone conference, this indication was not an objection to the “previously amended” status identifier used instead of the more preferred “previously presented” status identifier¹, but to any status indicating that the claim was amended previously. However, as pointed out, claim 1 was amended in the international stage of this application (“third” substituted for “second” in the second line of the last paragraph) by the filing of a substitute page; and this is evident from the US PTO application record which contains this substitute claims page (labeled “REPLACED BY ART 34 AMDT”). Thus, the status identifier “previously presented” for claim 1 used in the present claims listing is correct and in accordance with US PTO requirements that amendments in the international stage be recognized².
- With respect to **claim 9**, the status identifier “original” used in the claims listing filed on 5-2-05 was incorrect, as claim 9 was clearly shown as being amended. Thus, this change is again made by the present claims listing and now with the correct status identifier.

In view of the above, entry of the present Preliminary Amendment and further and favorable action is respectfully solicited.

¹ The “presently amended” variation of the preferred status identifier is specifically permitted in accordance with the OG Notice of 05 July 2005.

² When in English, or when an English translation is later provided by applicant.